

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294 (323) 881-2401

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

May 22, 2009

TO:

EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM:

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

READY! SET! GO! - WILDFIRE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

I would like to give you advance notification that our Department is preparing to launch *Ready! Set! Go!*, a major, multi-year public education campaign to help residents living in Los Angeles County's wildfire areas become better prepared to protect their lives and properties in the event of a wildfire.

This new program is a collaborative effort of all Southern California fire chiefs in response to the devastating wildfires throughout our region over the past several years. The cornerstone of the campaign is a 12-page Personal Wildfire Action Plan to teach residents how to create defensible space and make their homes more fire-resistant. It also promotes the idea of leaving their neighborhood early as the fire approaches by not waiting for an official evacuation order.

Other campaign materials include a 60-second public service announcement, website, and an educational video. To help alert the over 38,000 homeowners living in the wildfire areas of the County, we are also mailing a postcard to help direct them to our website to download the Plan. An ongoing media campaign will educate homeowners about specific ways to prepare their homes and themselves for a wind-driven fire.

Once these materials are finalized, we will be happy to forward copies to your staff so that we may coordinate upcoming community-based events and other campaign activities.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

PMF:kh

c: Sharon Harper
Vicky Santana
Randi Tahara
Joseph Charney
Rick Velasquez
Sussy Nemer

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF: